

REMARKS

In view of the above amendment, applicant believes the pending application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration of this case is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-5, 12-14, 18 and 20-24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Abbott, III et al (U.S. Patent No. 6,513,046. That rejection is now deemed moot, since claims 1, 12-14, 18 and 20-24 were canceled by the foregoing amendment.

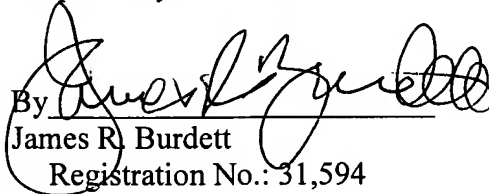
Claims 6-11, 15-17 and 19 were indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent format including all of the limitations of the rejected base claim and any intervening claims. Claim 6 has been amended to include all of the limitations of rejected base claim 1. Claims 2-5, 8, 10 and 11 have been amended to change their dependency to amended claim 6. Claim 15 has been amended to include all of the limitations of rejected base claim 12. Claims 16 and 17 have been amended to change their dependency to amended claim 15. Finally, claim 19 has been amended to include all of the limitations of rejected base claim 13. It is respectfully submitted that all pending claims are now in allowable condition. Early issuance of a Notice of Allowance is respectfully solicited.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that the prosecution of this application would be advanced by a personal interview, the Examiner is invited to telephone undersigned counsel to arrange for such an interview.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee necessitated by this Amendment to our Deposit Account No. 22-0261.

Dated: February 28, 2005

Respectfully submitted,

By 
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